

Message Text

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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FOR AMBASSADOR STRAUSZ-HUPE FROM UNDERSECRETARY ROGERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EEWIT, EFIN, EAGR, EAID, OECD, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO AND THE SECRETARY'S OECD EAST-WEST INITIATIVE

REF: A. USNATO 3748; B. STATE 166933

1. AS YOU WILL HAVE NOTED FROM OUR REPORTING ON JULY 6
XCSS MEETING, THE OTHER OECD COUNTRIES GENERALLY REACTED
TO THE SECRETARY'S EAST-WEST AND NORTH-SOUTH INITIATIVES
POSITIVELY, IF CAUTIOUSLY.

2. ON NORTH-SOUTH THERE WAS GENERAL CONSENSUS THAT, AT
LEAST FOR SHORT-TERM COORDINATION, EXISTING MECHANISMS
(SUCH AS HIGH-LEVEL GROUPS ON COMMODITIES AND
NORTH-SOUTH, TWP, AND IEA) SHOULD CONTINUE TO BACKSTOP
CIEC, AND THAT HLG'S SHOULD ALSO DEAL WITH COMMODITY AND
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N/S ISSUES IN BROADER CONTEXT.

3. ON EAST-WEST CONSENSUS WAS REACHED THAT AS FIRST STEP
SECRETARIAT SHOULD UNDERTAKE FACTUAL STUDY OF CURRENT

SITUATION IN AREAS OF EAST-WEST TRADE AND DEBT. THIS WILL SERVE AS SPRINGBOARD FOR FURTHER DELIBERATIONS AND, HOPEFULLY, DELINEATION OF OECD WORK PROGRAM ON EAST-WEST AT

NEXT XCSS MEETING. IN ADDITION TO AREAS WE THOUGHT DESIRABLE TO EXAMINE, ISSUES SUGGESTED BY OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN MEETING INCLUDED INVESTMENT, SHIPPING, AND FISHING.

4. IN LIGHT OF RATHER CAUTIOUS, WAIT-AND-SEE APPROACH TAKEN BY OTHERS AT XCSS MEETING, AND FRANK VIEW EXPRESSED BY SOME THAT OUR INITIATIVES CARRY CONSIDERABLE (AND, FROM THEIR STANDPOINT, UNDESIRABLE) POLITICAL OVERTONES, OUR ASSESSMENT IS THAT THESE PROGRAMS WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL, NON-POLITICIZED NURTURING IF THEY ARE TO GET OFF THE GROUND AND MOVE FORWARD. FOR THAT REASON I WOULD PREFER FOR TIME BEING TO RETAIN IN RESERVE THE OPTION YOU THOUGHTFULLY SUGGESTED FOR ALLIED COORDINATION AND RETURN TO IT ONCE THESE INITIATIVES ARE FIRMLY ON TRACK. IN MEANTIME, WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR STAFF INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS AT OECD AND WILL WELCOME YOUR FRANK APPRAISALS AND SUGGESTIONS AS WE MOVE AHEAD IN THESE AREAS. ROBINSON
UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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